

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Paul J. Hindrichs et al.  
Application No. : 10/678,403 Confirmation No.: 1004  
Filed : October 3, 2003  
For : SELF-EXPANDING EXTERIOR CONNECTORS FOR CREATING  
ANASTOMOSES TO SMALL-DIAMETER VESSELS AND  
METHODS OF USE  
Art Unit : 3731  
Examiner : Julie Ann Szpira

New York, New York 10036  
February 25, 2009

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Madam:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2008, applicants hereby amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments of the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this Reply.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this Reply.